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SECURITY INFORMATION

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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REPORT NO

**COUNTRY**

Czechoslovakia

DATE DISTR. 26 March 1953

**SUBJECT**

Austro-Czech Border Obstacles in the Ceske  
Velenice Area.

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1. The erection of barbed wire obstacles to block the Czechoslovak border in the area Gmuend (049/ R 34) - Ceske Velenice (049/ R 24) has been completed. The wire obstacles run west from Ceske Velenice to the area of Nove Hrady (049/ R 14) (Pyhrabruck (049/ R 14) on the Austrian side), where in the last week of [REDACTED] labor detachments of PS units were continuing in the erection of obstacles in the direction of the already blocked sector near Heinrich (049/ R 24) - Sejby (049/ R 13).
2. To the north of Ceske Velenice, the obstacles were erected as far as Nagelberg (049/ R 35), Austria, in a total length of some 10 kilometers. According to local informants, the PS units in the area of Nagelberg are working in a northerly direction.
3. Other PS labor detachments are progressing from the area Stankovsky Rybnik (049/ R 26) in a northerly direction. It has so far been impossible to ascertain whether a section of the obstacles between Nagelberg and Stankovsky Rybnik has already been completed or whether work is under way there.
4. Under favorable weather conditions it can be presumed that the construction of obstacles between the above mentioned sectors will be completed before the end of 1952.
5. Further PS labor detachments are engaged in the erection of obstacles in the area of Schwarzau (049/ R 13) - Golden Tisch (049/ R 13) - Sofienschloss (049/ R 13), Czechoslovakia.
6. From Sofienschloss the erection of obstacles continues in a southerly direction towards Joachimsval (049/ R 12), probably an effort to link onto the completed section near Pohori (049/ R 12), Czechoslovakia - Karlstrift (049/ R 12), Austria. A PS unit of approximately 500 men is billeted in the chateau at Sofienschloss.
7. It is impossible to approach the detachments working near Schwarzau because the work is going on some distance inside of the border on Czechoslovak territory. The area between the border line and the

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working site is constantly guarded by numerous patrols. By observation through field glasses it was ascertained that some 30 men are working permanently in that area. They are engaged in felling trees with the help of a motor saw, in digging foxholes, and in sinking dried fence posts into the ground. Work in that area has been in progress for the past 10 days. The wires have not yet been stretched. The workers are wearing uniforms except for two civilians, who are evidently guards, because they do not work themselves, but are constantly checking plans, as has been ascertained from the observation.

8. In the area north of Schwarzenau, in the direction of Hirschenweis (Q49/ R 13) - Lauterbach (Q49/ R 13) up to the completed section of obstacles near Heinrich, no construction activity has been observed. According to local informants the middle row of the three-row obstacles in the sector of Pohori, which was completed [REDACTED] is charged with electricity. The informants reported that two refugees from Czechoslovakia died in these obstacles [REDACTED] 25X1A 25X1A
9. The Austrian railroad track Gmuend - Litschau (Q49/ R 36), which led via the Ceske Velenice railroad station, was made to run through the railroad station Boehmzeil (Q49/ R 34), Austria, [REDACTED] as a result of the repudiation by Czechoslovakia of the in bond transit agreement. This fact has not yet been registered on maps. 25X1A

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